

Appl. No. 10/075,311
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 5 May 2004

Page 4 of 5

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Claims 8 and 9 are newly added

The applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

The applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

The Examiner is respectfully requested to state whether the drawings are acceptable.

Claims 1-7 are amended for non-statutory reasons: to correct one or more informalities, remove figure label number(s), and/or to replace European-style claim phraseology with American-style claim language. The claims are not narrowed in scope and no new matter is added. New dependent claims 8 and 9 are added to at least partially restore the original range of claims that existed before multiple dependencies were removed in the preliminary amendment. No new matter is added.

The Office action rejects:

claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Shiraki et al. (USP 6,504,522, hereinafter Shiraki),

claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Shiraki and Ishihara et al. (EP 0588019), and

claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Shiraki and Bonnett et al. (USP 6,075,506).

The applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In claim 1, upon which all of the claims depend, the applicants claim a display device having a matrix of selection electrodes and data electrodes, wherein the selection electrodes are selected in sequence, and the switching rate of pixels is increased with the sequence.

In each of the above rejections, the Office action relies upon Shiraki for teaching the increasing of the switching rate with the sequence of pixel selection. The

Appl. No. 10/075,311
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 5 May 2004

Page 5 of 5

applicants respectfully maintain, however, that Shiraki does not teach adjusting the switching rate of the pixels with the sequence of selection of the selection electrodes.

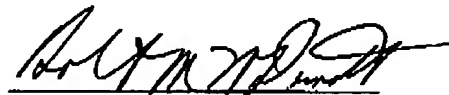
The Office action asserts that, because the discharge time of Shiraki's pixels varies with the display of pixels across the horizontal scan period, Shiraki teaches the claimed limitation of increasing the switching rate of pixels (Office action, page 3, lines 1-3). The applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion. Allowing shorter or longer discharge times has no bearing on the rate at which a pixel changes state.

Further, claim 1 specifically recites that the switching rate of the pixels increases with the sequence of driving the selection electrodes. Shiraki's discharge time varies with respect to the horizontal period, and does not vary with respect to the sequence of driving the selection electrodes.

Because Shiraki neither teaches nor suggests increasing the switching rate of pixels in a display device in the sequence of selecting pixels, as specifically claimed in claim 1, upon which each of the other claims depend, the applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103(a) over Shiraki.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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